ASSEMBLY OF THE UNION
Twenty-Second Ordinary Session
30-31 January 2014
Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA

PROGRESS REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON
THE AFRICAN UNION AGENDA 2063

**REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF
THE AFRICAN UNION AGENDA 2063**

I.   Introduction

1   In accordance with the Executive Council Decision EX.CL/Dec.768(XXIII) an Agenda 2063 Framework Document is to be presented for consideration by the AU Policy Organs at the January 2014 AU Summit. This paper highlights the progress made so far, emerging issues from stakeholder consultations, outcomes of the technical analysis and reviews, a communication strategy and the way forward for the preparation of the Agenda 2063 Framework Document.

2   The Zero Draft Framework Document is based on consultations with stakeholders at continental level and technical reviews of existing national and regional plans, including continental frameworks, as well as situational analysis and other inputs. Its purpose is to share pointers so far gained in the formulation of Agenda 2063, and stimulate discussion and seek guidance on the development of a more elaborate Agenda 2063 document. It also presents a roadmap for completion of the Agenda 2063 development process.

3   The purpose of this report is to inform the Executive Council on progress attained so far and to seek further guidance on further work to be done towards the finalization of the full Agenda 2063 Document. A detailed Progress Report and a Zero Draft Framework document have been prepared and submitted to Member States.

II.   Progress to date

4   In developing the draft Framework Document and in line with the above Council Decision, the Commission, in close collaboration with the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, the African Development Bank and the UN Economic Commission for Africa, has undertaken the following:

- Established an Agenda 2063 Technical Team
- Stakeholder Consultations
- Review of National Medium Term Plans & Visions
- Preliminary Indicators and Base Line Information
- National and Regional Level Consultations
- Development of a Communication Strategy for Agenda 2063

II.1 Technical Support

5   A small Technical Team was established from early September 2013 drawing upon existing Commission staff and other support. Additional support is envisaged from collaborating Institutions in specialized areas – financing, trends analysis & scenario planning, etc.

II.2 Stakeholder Consultations

6   Agenda 2063 consultations commenced in September 2013. The primary objectives of these continental level consultations were to provide participants the forum to share their vision of the Africa they want in 2063 and propose goals, milestones, key drivers and enablers as well as priority actions

7   The meetings were organized in the following parts:

- Part I involved learning from the past through a review the African development experience at the national, sub-regional and continental levels;

- Part II dealt with looking into the future through a discussion of the type of Africa participants want, key goals, milestones, priorities and actions they propose;

- Part III involved a discussion of how to make it happen through exploring and proposing a broad Agenda 2063 implementation, monitoring and evaluation framework, as well as strategies for financing Agenda 2063.

8   To date the following consultations have been held:

- Private sector (12-14 September 2013)
- African Academics / Think Tanks (16-18 September 2013
- Planning Experts & Development Specialists (27-28 September 2013)
- Civil Society Organizations (30 September – 2 October 2013)
- Diaspora (8-10 October 2013)
- RECs and AU Organs (21-23 October 2013)
- Youth (1-3 November 2013)
- Media (9-10 December 2013)
- Women (12-13 December 2013)
- Web based consultations (continuous and interactive)

9   Outputs of these consultations form the major basis for the preparation of the draft Framework Document.

II.3 Technical Analysis and Review

Review of National Plans, Regional and Continental Frameworks

10   Plans from 20 Member States have been reviewed so far and a report has been prepared. The process is continuing with the intention to cover all 54 Member States. Lessons gained from the review will be relevant for the preparation of Agenda 2063. A

review of all RECs and AU Organs medium term plans, including on-going programmes and policy initiatives is underway. Continental Frameworks e.g. PIDA, CAADP, IADA, AMV, AMI, etc., are being analyzed. The outcomes of these reviews will facilitate integration of existing national, regional and continental priorities into Agenda 2063.

Preliminary Indicators and Base Line Information

11   Its primary aim is to establish a baseline for Agenda 2063 to facilitate comprehensive situational analysis, trends analysis, target setting and monitoring. It involves the following aspects:

- A review and unpacking the eight ideals stated by the AU Heads of States and Governments Solemn Declaration as well as the Vision;

- Identification of a set of themes, sub-themes and indicators that capture the spirit and substance of the Solemn Declaration and the Vision;

- Descriptive analysis of each indicator in a manner that would enable the development of a framework leading to a sound Agenda 2063 Agenda;

- Work on trend analysis and scenarios expected to commence soon.

Development of Guidelines for National and Regional Level Consultations

- The guidelines adopted during consultations with RECs and AU Organs will facilitate the preparation conduct and reporting of the National and Regional level consultations.

III.   Emerging Issues from Stakeholder Consultations

12   Consultations are playing a crucial role in raising awareness and providing information on Agenda 2063 as well as soliciting participants' views and suggestions on the following areas:

- African aspirations for 2063
- Drivers and enablers
- Risks, threats and mitigation strategies
- Proposals on "how to make it happen"

13   III.1 African Aspirations for 2063

- **A Prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development;**

  ✓ Moving from current low to middle and high income status;

✓ A transformed continent where economic growth is translated into equitable wealth and employment creation, guided by sustainable development policies and practices;

✓ Capable of mobilizing its own financial resources, reliant on trade not aid;

✓ Intra –African trade to more than 50 percent compared to the current 11 percent with a capacity to influence developments in the rest of the world;

✓ By 2063, Africa will be a technologically advanced continent supported by the biggest workforce in the world and highly skilled human resources;

✓ With the necessary infrastructure to support the sustainable use, equitable sharing of benefits and conservation of its vast natural resources including marine resources;

✓ With high life expectancy, literacy rates, low infant mortality rates; and a continent where gender equality is the norm with equal opportunities and access for the common good.

- **An Integrated Continent, Politically United, and based on the ideals of Pan Africanism;**

✓ Fully independent, self-reliant and integrated that trades with itself;

✓ Where the African Union Anthem is taught and sung in all schools and universities, and the African Union Flag is used by all member states at all official platforms;

✓ Politically united continent that speaks with one voice in international engagements and a common/shared position;

✓ Where Pan Africanism is inculcated in the Youth; and a transition plan for the Youth to take over the continent is addressed; and where the values of the AU are integrated into the curriculum of our schools;

✓ Where the Founders dream or vision of OAU of a united states of Africa, a union of African states with: one central bank system and currency; one central government, President; one African passport; one continental nationality including the diaspora is fulfilled;

✓ Where the AU is seen not as a Union of heads of states but as a Union of African citizens; and AUC becomes the most influential diplomatic and political hub;

- ✓ With seamless borders and well networked (by road, rail and air, ICT); with free mobility of labour and capital; a continental Visa that is accessed by all Africans to enhance free movement;

- ✓ With strong RECs in place and instituting laws and protocols to support continental integration;

- ✓ Where work is a key ethic and value; and its citizens have strong African identity, values, civic education, etc.

- ✓ Proposed Targets on African Integration
    - o Intra-African trade:
    - o Continental Common Market
    - o Continental Customs Union   Established in (2015-25)
    - o Pan African Economic and Monetary Union

- ✓ Intra-African trade to reach 50 percent from the 2012 level of 10.1 percent

- ✓ Infrastructure:
    - o PIDA (Programme for Infrastructural Development in Africa) targets for modern highways, railways port capacity, ICT attained in the medium term (2025-2045)

- ✓ Movement of people:
    - o Entry visa requirement abolished in the short term (2015-2025)

- **An Africa of Good Governance, Respect for Human Rights, Justice and the Rule of Law;**

  - ✓ A continent that is corruption-free and governed by democratic rules;

  - ✓ Where public institutions are at the service of its people at all levels;

  - ✓ With effective grassroots participation in decision making; national development / economic and governance management;

  - ✓ Where unconstrained access to justice, respect for the rule of law and due process is exercised;

  - ✓ That conducts free, fair and credible elections;

  - ✓ With strong community focused development agenda including local governance –with accent on the concerns of women, youth and the marginalized; community based / driven integrated services education, health, food security, water and sanitation;

✓ Where the culture of accountability by all stakeholders is encouraged;

✓ Where the African citizenry is empowered to hold leaders accountable;

✓ Where African governments and the continental leadership engage in decision-making without illicit foreign interference; and

✓ That considers gender equality for youth and women and promotes Economic Freedom;

✓ Respectful of human rights and has no contradictions with itself;

✓ In which women are fully integrated in all structures of decision-making and governance

✓ Where the youth play a leadership role; with 30% youth participation in decision making processes according to the African Youth Charter;

✓ Where good governance prevails at the continental, regional, national and local levels;

- **A Peaceful and Secure Africa;**

  ✓ Free of conflict and at peace with itself and secure;

  ✓ Where harmony prevails among communities regardless of ethnicity/tribe, religion, class, etc.,

  ✓ Where citizens enjoy equitable /fair access to quality public goods and services – Inclusive of all sectors of society and African peoples, including the Diaspora;

  ✓ Where value systems anchored in the Principle of Unity in Diversity are promoted;

  ✓ Peaceful but militarily strong to defend its interests and ensures security;

  ✓ Exercises full ownership of a united army and navy commanded by the Assembly of AU Heads of States and Government;

  ✓ With national peace structures and mechanisms- with standing capacities for timely conflict prevention and management. And

  ✓ Where the African Peace & Security Architecture (APSA) is fully implemented.

- **An Africa with a strong Cultural Identity, Values and Ethics;**

  ✓ Strengthening the African cultural identity, values and ethics as a critical factor for Africa's emergence on the global stage;

  ✓ African people imbued with a sense of their fundamental cultural unity, a sense of a common destiny and African identity and Pan-African consciousness;

  ✓ An Africa where work is a key ethic and value, where women play an important role, and in which traditional and religious leaders, including the youth as drivers of change is recognized.

- **An Africa whose development is people-driven, especially relying on the potential offered by its youth and women;**

  ✓ An Africa that effectively addresses the acute needs for education, health, jobs and opportunities for self-advancement as well as for democracy and self-realization;

  ✓ A continent that consolidates progress in promoting gender equality and women empowerment, and closing the still glaring gaps that need to be closed;

  ✓ An Africa that places the youth question as well as promoting gender equality and women empowerment at the center of Africa's social and economic development as well as peace and security agenda.

- **Africa as a Strong and Influential Global Player and Partner**

  ✓ With Permanent seats on the UN Security Council), thus playing a prominent role in world affairs;

  ✓ Second biggest economic block that addresses its own needs and manages its own resources;

  ✓ Partnerships with other regions based on mutually advantageous benefits;

  ✓ Substantial increases in Africa's share in world output and trade;

  ✓ Proactive in promoting Africa's interest in global negotiations;

  ✓ An effective control and management of its Blue Economy/Assets.

14   The above aspirations:

- Show a strong convergence with the AU Vision "to build an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, an Africa driven and managed by its own citizen and representing a dynamic force in the international arena";

- Are in line with the eight priorities of the OAU/AU 50th Year Golden Jubilee Anniversary Solemn Declaration;

- Are consistent with the key issues that have emerged from the analysis of the preceding experiences, including the goals in existing national, regional and continental plans and frameworks;

- Demonstrate a strong continuity of thinking between the Founders' and the present generation of Africans, albeit in a different context;

- Manifest a clear desire for prosperity and well-being, for unity and integration, for a continent of free citizens and expanded horizons, with freedom from conflict and improved human security, an Africa of strong identity, culture and values, as well as a strong and influential partner on the global stage making equal contribution to human progress and welfare.

15   The challenge therefore is the choice of strategy to attain these aspirations.

16   III.2 Drivers and Enablers

Drivers - Factors identified by stakeholders as critical for Africa's transformation:

- Strong political leadership fully committed to development, democratic rule, equity, justice and rule of law;

- Population dynamics – large population and urbanization;

- Industrialization- value addition and the shift from export of raw materials to export of processed goods;

- Climate change – adverse impacts and coping capacities;

- Technological change in agriculture, energy and communications, and

- Markets (domestic and foreign) – expanding of existing markets and creation of new ones;
- Infrastructure development.

Enablers - Essential conditions to accompany the drivers

- Good governance

- Policy and legal environment,
- Human and institutional capacity,
- Responsible and efficient private sector and media .

17 III.3 Key Risks and Threats - likely disruptive elements

- Social and economic inequalities;
- Management of diversities;
- Terrorism and organized crime;
- Religious extremism, ethnicism,
- Corruption and nepotism;
- Natural disasters (sudden and slow onset) and environmental degradation.

IV. Preliminary outcomes of technical analysis and reviews

18 IV.1 Lessons from Review of National, Regional, Continental Plans and Frameworks

- Take account of medium and long term goals of the plans of member states as a first step to integrating member states priorities into Agenda 2063;

- This will create a good environment for linkage to member states plans and serve to inform those plans as well;

- Continental level frameworks should be rationalized and made part of the planks of Agenda 2063;

- RECs' should spearhead the implementation, monitoring and evaluation coordination of Agenda 2063;

- Availability of locally generated funding is a necessary condition for Agenda 2063 success.

Situational Analysis

19 All indications show strong prospects for Africa's continued robust growth. While these achievements must be celebrated, Africa still needs to make radical policy strides and remain alive to the very daunting challenges that still exist and are likely to emerge as it makes the next transition.

- Relative stability prevails on the continent, but greater and more concerted efforts are needed to secure comprehensive Peace and Security that still continues to elude some parts of Africa-especially in the Horn, the Great Lakes, the Indian Ocean Island, West African region, and parts of North Africa and Central Africa;

- The democratic gains that have been attained need to be further consolidated and strengthened to deliver the democracy dividend in terms of deepening the culture of respect for Human rights, justice, strengthening real popular participation and improving livelihoods;

- The remarkable progress made in terms of economic growth that is taking place must be matched by progress to adequately reduce poverty or create enough jobs and close the inequity gap-of income and opportunity. Across the continent, delivery of critical services-in health, education, water and sanitation among others should be strengthened;

- The enormous endowment of Africa with 60% of the world's arable land must be capitalized upon to rid the continent of food insecurity and the pockets of endemic hunger that still persists in some African countries;

- Concerted efforts by governments, local communities and with support from development partners, has resulted in Africa making substantial progress in addressing the scourge of aids but much remains to be done as many of those dying from AIDS or living with the virus are still in Africa;

- The youth bulge presents great potential for Africa's future, but it also calls for imaginative and urgent attention;

- The anticipated resource boom needs creative management to be of benefit to the people of Africa;

- There is progress towards economic integration-at regional and continental level but this not occurring at a pace fast enough to meet the needs for sustained growth, trade and exchanges of services, capital or movement of people.

V. Communication Strategy

20 In order to make the development of Agenda 2063 and its implementation exercise effective, a Draft Communication Strategy has been prepared and aims at the following:

- Maintenance of public awareness and media presence at events as part of the conceptualization process of Agenda 2063;

- Provision of information on progress on the formulation and implementation of agenda 2063;

- Promotion of debates, discussions etc.;

- Motivate participation of various stakeholders;

- Promote ownership of Agenda 2063.

21   The draft has been shared with African media during consultations and their inputs are being integrated into a revised Communication Strategy.

VI.   Way Forward

22   In order to consolidate the progress made so far leading to the finalization of Agenda 2063 Document, further work will include the following:

- Incorporation of the comments and guidance of the Policy Organs of the AU into a revised draft framework document which will form the basis for the preparation of the comprehensive Agenda 2063 document;

- Completion of the review of national and regional plans and continental frameworks;

- In-depth technical analysis of the base line situation pertaining to the key goals of Agenda 2063 approved by the PRC and the Executive Council;

- Trends analysis, prospective studies and Scenario planning of key strategic thrusts / factors – technology, climate change, demographics, etc. and how they impact on Agenda 2063;

- Further consultations with AU Organs, AUC Departments, Agencies and RECs to facilitate integration of continental frameworks into Agenda 2063 and defining the milestones;

- Sector specific consultations and analytical work on the feasibility of targets / milestones and strategies to be incorporated into Agenda 2063 ;

- Consultations with African Statisticians General to harmonize indicators for Agenda 2063 with ongoing efforts;

- Development / preparation of the Comprehensive Agenda 2063 Document;

- Regional Validation workshops / meetings on Draft Agenda 2063 Document; and

- Final draft Agenda 2063 Document for submission to AU Summit in July 2014.

VII.   Recommendations

The Executive Council is:

a)   Requested to take note of the progress attained so far in the development of Agenda 2063 and to also take note of the people's views on the aspirations, drivers, enablers, risks and threats.

b)   Requested to urge Member States to study the Draft Framework Document and provide the Commission with inputs by mid-April 2014 for use when finalizing the Agenda 2063. In this regard, the Commission and the PRC should work very closely together in finalizing the document, and convene meetings/retreats as and when necessary.

c)   Invited to note that the Commission will consult further with relevant stakeholders in developing the Communication Strategy that accompanies the Agenda 2063, and will submit the final draft during the AU Summit in July 2014.

d)   Also invited to note that the Commission will produce two final Agenda 2063 documents, one being
   - A short and concise inspirational document and the other;
   - A comprehensive Technical Document.

e)   Further invited to note that as directed by the Executive Council, the Commission is doing everything possible to expedite the remaining work with the goal of providing a fully developed Draft Agenda 2063 by the Mid-Year AU Summit in June 2014.

2014-01-31

Progress Report of the Commission on the African Union Agenda 2063

African Union

DCMP